

## DEDICATION

The Book says . . .

Mr. Justice O'Neill's comments recognize the many invaluable contributions of Professor Wills to the bench and bar of Ohio. Those achievements need not be reiterated here, except to note that those fortunate enough to have been students of Professor Wills have been the primary beneficiaries of his efforts. While instrumental in the drafting and adoption of the Civil Rules, Professor Wills has continued to devote himself to his academic responsibilities. Although he is best known for his work in the area of procedure, Professor Wills also teaches Pleading, the Administration of Decedents' Estates, and a seminar on Jurimetrics. Professor Wills is an excellent example of the accomplished lawyer and scholar, graced with a general knowledge of history, science, philosophy, and business, as well as law; in short, the whole man.

The intricacies of pleading and procedure can be baffling to the student of law with no apparent logical resolution.

"But," quoth Trinquamelle, "my friend, how come you to know, understand, and resolve, the obscurity of these various and seeming contrary passages in law, which are laid claim to by the suitors and pleading parties?" "Even just," quoth Bridlegoose, "after the fashion of your other worships; to wit, when there are many bags on the one side, and on the other, I then use my little small dice . . . I have other large great dice, fair, and goodly ones, which I employ on the fashion that your other worships use to do when the matter is more plain, clear, and liquid; that is to say, when there are fewer bags . . . [F]or I give out sentence in his favour unto whom hath befallen the best chance by dice. . . ."<sup>1</sup>

Fortunately, Professor Wills supplies his students with that knowledge necessary to deal with the law without resorting to the throwing of dice. One's expertise in substantive law will be of little value without knowledge of the procedure required to present and preserve his claim. Perhaps Mr. Justice Frankfurter best summarized the importance of procedure when he stated "I am not one of those who think that procedure is just folderol or noxious moss."<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Francois Rabelais, *Gargantus and Pantagruel*, bk. 3, ch. 39, *The Works of Rabelais* (Gustave Dore trans. Derby: The Morey Press 1894) at 352-53.

<sup>2</sup> *Cook v. Cook*, 342 U.S. 126, 133 (1915).

While an authority in his own right, Professor Wills' humility does not allow him to suggest that he is always correct, or to require his students to take only his word for authority. In fact, Professor Wills demonstrates that he is human by occasionally relating his mistakes to his students, so that they might avoid them. He, like any good lawyer, when questioned, will cite his authority, usually beginning "the book says, . . ." In this issue the Editors and Staff of the Ohio State Law Journal would like to pay tribute and express their appreciation to Professor Wills.

Professor Wills, this book says thanks.